

Human Trafficking Coordinating Council  
***Draft Meeting Minutes***  
June 6, 2016  
Superior Court Conference Room, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New Castle County Courthouse  
Wilmington, DE 19801

In attendance: Jan Jurden, Periann Doko, Abby Layton, Lisa Schwind, Stephanie Criss, Valerie Marek, Elizabeth Fillingame, Tom Purse, Nikki Warner, Laura Graham, Vanessa Phillips, Chris Kervick, Lisa Minutola, Alison McGonigal, Fay Whittle, Yolanda Schlabach, Leslie Brower, Mary McDonough, Kate Mogulescu, Vivean Huelgo, Oliver Cleary, Maureen Monagle, Bridget Poulle.  
Participating by phone: Stephen Lawless.

Abby Layton, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:05 pm. Following introductions, the motion to approve the minutes from the March 7, 2016 meeting was approved. Abby introduced the guest speakers; Kate Mogulescu, Public Defender and Supervising Attorney of the Exploitation Intervention Project, New York Legal Aid Society and Vivian Huelgo, Chief Counsel of the American Bar Association's (ABA) Commission on Domestic & Sexual Violence, who facilitates the Survivor Reentry Project on the ABA side.

Post-conviction laws are an important part of the effort to truly provide comprehensive services to victims of Human Trafficking. Kate and Vivian launched the Survivor Reentry Project, a joint initiative of their agencies to provide national training and technical assistance on post-conviction advocacy for survivors of human trafficking. The Project is supported by a grant from the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U. S. Department of Justice. New York was the first state to pass vacatur laws in 2010. Vacatur laws allow survivors to petition to have their records cleared if they can show that their crimes arose from victimization. Now, approximately 27 states (including Delaware) have vacatur laws for trafficking survivors; however use of the relief has been limited. The Survivor Reentry Project offers national training on vacatur remedies for public defenders, legal services lawyers, pro bono attorneys, law students, judges and prosecutors. Lisa Minutola asked if there were additional offenses that Delaware should consider; Vivian will leave information regarding expansion of existing laws. Abby thanked the speakers for their informative presentation.

Abby is stepping down as Chair of the Human Trafficking Coordinating Council, Periann Doko and Oliver Cleary will be the new DOJ representatives. Abby reported that Dawn Culp and Randall Hughes are stepping down from the Council. Dawn was Chair of the Public Outreach & Awareness Committee and R.L. was Chair of the Law Enforcement Committee. Commissioner McDonough is willing to serve as Chair of the Public Awareness Committee. Lisa Minutola is stepping down as the Office of Defense Services (ODS) representative and as Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee. Lisa will help to coordinate the Committee and she restated the need to have a Law Enforcement representative appointed to the Strategic Planning Committee. Lisa Schwind will be the new ODS representative.

Commissioner McDonough offered to serve on the Nominating Committee to address the member vacancies and for election of the Council Chair. The Commissioner believes the Council Chair should be elected at the September meeting. Leslie Brower offered to serve on the Nominating Committee as well.

Abby reported that as part of the HTCC mandate, an Annual Report is to be submitted to the Governor by September. Each Committee Chair should submit a report of their annual activities to the Council Chair.

Chris Kervick provided an overview of the Criminal Justice Council (CJC) grant application process. CJC is the State Administrative Agency for federal criminal justice funds. Once funds are received they are filtered out to the appropriate Committee. CJC staff then post Request for Proposals and agencies submit their applications. CJC staff put together panels to review the applications and the recommendations of the review panels are submitted to the CJC Committees. The final decisions are made by the CJC Committees and voted on by the full Council.

President Judge Jurden asked if the HTCC could apply for funds. Chris explained that the HTCC is not set up to apply for funds; for one thing they have no federal DUNS number. Similar agencies like the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council are funded by the General Fund however the HTCC does not receive state funding. Following discussion it was agreed that the issue of funding needs to be addressed by the Council.

During discussion of the By-laws, Abby explained there is pending legislation (HB 359) that would prohibit vote by proxy at the meeting of any public body. Commissioner McDonough said for continuity she believes there should be a limited number of designees for each Council member. Abby said she understood the Commissioner's concern and perhaps those concerns could be discussed at a future meeting of the Executive Committee. Abby asked if there was any further discussion, there being none, a motion to approve the By-Laws was passed.

Yolanda Schlabach reported that the May 31st training put together by Elisa Lehman, FBI Delaware, was well received. The Training titled "Interviewing Juvenile Sex Trafficking Victims and Sextortion" was held at Delaware State University. They had good attendance at both sessions and received very good feedback. Yolanda reported that the Dover Downs Training is confirmed for November 17, 2016. The cost for the training is \$19,000. Abby asked if they have funding, Yolanda said her organization has paid \$4000.00 to date and she has signed a contract, but they do not have funding. Following discussion it was agreed that the HTCC is supportive of the training but the HTCC will not request funding for the training and the HTCC cannot be listed on any written requests for funding.

The next meeting date is September 12, 2016.

Abby thanked everyone for their participation and for the opportunity to serve as Chair. Abby asked if there was any public input, there being none the meeting was adjourned.

B. Poulle  
CJC